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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1391)

Name of Candidate	ARTH JAIN		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	488737
Center	ORN	Date	22/10/19

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.
12.5X20=250

1. Enumerate important privileges enjoyed by each House of Parliament collectively and its members individually and also discuss their significance.
संसद के प्रत्येक सदन द्वारा सामूहिक रूप से एवं उसके सदस्यों द्वारा व्यक्तिगत रूप से उपभोग किये जाने वाले प्रमुख विशेषाधिकारों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए और साथ ही उनके महत्त्व की भी चर्चा कीजिए।

The constitution provides both collective and individual privileges to ensure its smooth functioning and maintain dignity.

Collective Privileges

- No member can be arrested in the premises of the house without the presiding officer's permission.
- The house can conduct a secret sitting, to the exclusion of general public.
- The house can publish reports on its proceedings, and debar someone from doing the same.

Individual Privileges

- No member can be arrested 40 days before/after session or during a session.

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- Members are exempted from jury service while house is in session.

- Members have freedom of speech, subject to other provisions of constitution of rules of house.

Source of Privileges

Notably the privileges have been established from different sources such as:

- Constitution
- Statutory provisions
- Rules of House
- Conventions

Significance of Privileges

- Allow the house to maintain its dignity and respectable position in a democracy.

- Freedom of speech given to members leads to healthy debates.

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- Most provisions aim to achieve political neutrality and impartiality.
- Allow upholding decorum while discharging responsibilities.

Way Forward

The privileges (both collective and individual) go hand-in-hand with responsibilities that the members have towards the parliament, and public in general.
Both must be exercised keeping the other in mind.

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2. Give an account of the composition and functions of the Finance Commission as mentioned in the Constitution of India.
भारत के संविधान में यथा उल्लिखित वित्त आयोग की संरचना और कार्यों का विवरण दीजिए।

Finance Commission has been established under Article 280 of the Constitution as a quasi-judicial body.

Functions of Finance Commission

- To determine the distribution of net proceeds of taxes b/w Centre and states.
  ↓
  It aims to achieve both horizontal and vertical equality in distribution.
- Principles governing grant-in-aids to the states.
- Recommend measures to be taken by states to augment their consolidated funds.
  ↓
  Aims to promote higher devolution of funds to local bodies.

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- Any other matter as specified by the President.

The commission is constituted every 5 years or earlier, as the need arises.

Composition of FC

- The constitution makes no provisions for the qualifications, tenure of members.
- These are decided by a statute of parliament namely - Finance Commission Act.
- The last FC was chaired by Mr. NK Singh whose recommendations have been implemented for the coming 5 year period.

Role of FC

- Envisaged as the balancing wheel of fiscal federalism in India.

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- Aims to achieve distributive justice in terms of devolution of resources.
- Can also recommend modification in taxation powers.

Conclusion

Finance Commission under Article 280 (or under Article 243) is an advisory body that aims to balance fiscal federalism in India.

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3. Preamble shows the general purposes behind several provisions in the Constitution, and is a key to the minds of the makers of the Constitution. Explain. Also, comment on the amendability of the Preamble.

उद्देशिका संविधान के अनेक प्रावधानों में निहित सामान्य उद्देश्यों को अभिव्यक्त करती है और संविधान निर्माताओं की सोच को समझने की एक कुंजी है। व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, उद्देशिका की संशोधनीयता पर भी टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The constitution of India opens with the Preamble. The preamble was based on the objectives resolution moved by Mr. Nehru in 1946.

Significance of Preamble

- It embodies the basic philosophy on which the constitution is based.
- It outlines the broad objectives which the constitution aims to achieve.

Thus it is called a "key to the minds of the makers of the constitution"

Further

- ~~It tells~~ It tells us the source of power / authority from which the constitution draws — i.e "We the people"

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- It outlines some basic fundamentals

Socialist State → Welfare Based

Republic i.e elected head

Democratic

Secular

The Indian state is based on above fundamentals.

- Highlights the Larger aims for society such as:
  - Justice: Socio, Economic, Political
  - Liberty: Thought, Expression, Belief etc
  - Equality: Status and Opportunity
  - Fraternity: Individual & Nation

Amendability of Constitution

SC in Kesavananda Bharti (1973), Minerva Mills (1980) has remarked the following:

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① Preamble is a part of constitution.

② Preamble is amendable under Article 368.

③ The amendability is subject to the basic structure doctrine.

Conclusion

The preamble forms an integral part of our constitution showing its general purposes and serving as a "key" to its provisions.

It is amendable subject to the basic structure doctrine.

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4. Explain the principle of subsidiarity, its importance and discuss how the 73rd constitutional amendment act tries to achieve it.

समनुषंगिता के सिद्धांत व इसके महत्त्व की व्याख्या कीजिए एवं चर्चा कीजिए कि 73वां संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम इसे प्राप्त करने हेतु किस प्रकार प्रयास करता है।

Subsidiarity deals with devolution of powers and responsibilities to a subordinate level.

Importance of Subsidiarity

- Marks a shift from "bureaucratisation of development" to "democratisation of development"
- Allows for promotion of grass root democracy.
- Developmental work can be in sync with demands at the local level.

"In other words subsidiarity seeks to bring the development process closer to the people".

- Increases accountability as now people can put a direct check on exercise of power.

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73rd Constitutional Amendment

73rd CAA, enacted in 1992 provides for local governance in the form of PRIs – Panchayati Raj Institutions.

- Enactment of 73rd CAA led to establishment of Gram Sabha to discuss/deliberate on issues.
- Established a 3-tier system with Gram Panchayat at the bottom.

This allowed for developmental work to be in sync with local needs.

Further regular elections to panchayats enforce accountability.

Existing Challenges

- Interference of bureaucrats and politicians.
- Low taxation powers, reluctance to tax.

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- Financial constraints and tied nature of funds.
- Absence of audit mechanism.

Way Forward

Subsidiarity as a model of governance is very effective as proven in case of Sweden and Denmark.

The 73rd CAA aims to achieve the same. Thus the need of the hour is to provide feasible fiscal powers to achieve grassroot democracy in true sense.

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5. Explaining the importance of an independent judiciary, highlight the relevant Constitutional provisions that safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the Supreme Court.

एक स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका के महत्त्व की व्याख्या करते हुए, उच्चतम न्यायालय की स्वतंत्रता एवं निष्पक्ष कार्य पद्धति को सुरक्षित और सुनिश्चित करने वाले प्रासंगिक संवैधानिक प्रावधानों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Indian polity is based on the doctrine of separation of powers that divides both powers and responsibilities and ensure a system of checks and balances.

Importance of Independent Judiciary

- In line with separation of powers: This helps check excessive/arbitrary exercise of power by executive or legislature.
- Executive interference can delay/disrupt justice.
- Crucial in taking "unpopular decisions" that are needed for progress of society. Eg: Section 377 judgement.

Independence of judiciary has been guaranteed by the Indian Constitution.

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Constitutional provisions

- SC/HC have the power to appoint their own staff.
- Appointment of CJI/other SC judges is taken after consulting members of the judiciary itself.
  ↓
  Established in the 3rd Judge Case.
- Power to punish for contempt.
- Its role cannot be dismissed except on a substantive motion in the house.
- Its salaries are charged on CFI. Further the provisions cannot be changed to their disadvantage.
- Well-defined impeachment process has been laid down.

The provisions are similar for HC and other courts with certain modifications.

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Conclusion

Constitution envisages an integrated and independent judiciary for India, to impart justice in an impartial and unbiased manner.
For this it provides adequate safeguards.

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6. Mention the six freedoms as guaranteed under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. Also, comment on the way in which the constitution has attempted to strike a balance between individual liberty and interests of society.

भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 19 के अंतर्गत प्रत्याभूत छः स्वतंत्रताओं का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, संविधान ने जिस प्रकार से व्यक्तिगत स्वतंत्रता और समाज के हितों के मध्य संतुलन स्थापित करने का प्रयास किया है, उस पर भी टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Constitution under Article 19 guarantees 6 freedoms as fundamental rights.

The 6 freedoms

- Freedom of Speech & Expression.
- Of Association.
- Of movement
- Of residing anywhere in the country
- Of carrying out any trade/profession
- Of assembly.

The constitution has however struck a balance b/w individual liberty and interests of society by imposing certain restrictions, on these Fundamental rights under Article 19.

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Restrictions / Qualifications

- Speech & Expression: Subject to public order, sovereignty and integrity of the nation. Thus for example hate speech is not allowed.
- Of Assembly: Rioting / Striking or assembling with weapons is not allowed.
- Of movement: Restriction on grounds of public health and morality. eg: Movement of people with AIDS.
- Of residence: Restriction on grounds of interests of communities. Eg: One cannot go and reside in a schedule area.
- Of Association: Various safeguards have been provided in Articles 243ZH - 243ZT.
- Of trade: Trade in immoral activities is banned. eg: Trafficking

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Conclusion.

The constitution under Article 19, while granting several freedoms aims to balance both individual liberty and interests of society.

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7. With examples, discuss the significance of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in light of costly and time-consuming litigation process in India.

भारत में महंगी और समयसाध्य वाद प्रक्रिया के आलोक में वैकल्पिक विवाद समाधान तंत्र के महत्त्व की उदाहरणों सहित चर्चा कीजिए।

Alternate Dispute Resolution refers to unconventional methods of resolving disputes and arriving at a compromise/ desired solution.

Significance of ADR

- Judiciary is overburdened with cases. (3.2 crore according to NJDG data)
- Legal technicalities/cost of process often deters people from justice.
- Since ADR is based on principles of natural justice, and not bound by procedural codes such as Evidence Act, it can achieve speedy dispensation of justice.
- Tribunals/ADR setup for specific purposes achieve expertise on the same.

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Examples

1. NGT has been successful in dispensing quick environmental justice.
2. Lok Adalats — due to their method of informal proceedings have been successful in coming at a compromise in many cases.
3. Establishment of Permanent Lok Adalats.

Types of ADR

- Arbitration
- Mediation
- Conciliation

Issues with ADR

- Lack of formal procedure leads to non-uniformity in results.
- Executive interference in case of appointments.
- Low awareness.
- Credibility issues.

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Way Forward

ADR as a method of dispensing justice is crucial given the overburdened judiciary and time consuming litigation. Reforms to address structural gaps in ADR process must be undertaken.

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8. Explain why the Indian Constitution has been argued to have created a 'federation with a centralising tendency'.

ऐसा तर्क क्यों दिया जाता है कि भारतीय संविधान ने 'केंद्रीकरण की प्रवृत्ति वाले एक परिसंघ' को सृजित किया है, व्याख्या कीजिए।

The Indian Constitution has provided for a federal polity with both a unitary bias and centralising tendency.

It has been modelled along the Canadian constitution.

Centralising Tendency

- Emergency Powers: Under these the centre becomes all powerful and can exercise both legislative and executive power in state domain.
- President's Rule: Under Article 356, 365 - the centre can takeover the state administration/discharge of duties.
- Article 253: Allows Parliament to legislate in State domain to enforce an international treaty.

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Structural Causes → Centralising Tendency

- Distribution of legislative powers has a unitary bias. The Union list has the most important subjects.
  → Further law of parliament prevails over the state law in case of concurrent list.

- Distribution of taxation powers is skewed in favour of centre.
  → States have to depend on devolution of taxes and grants to meet their needs.

- All India services: Their ultimate control lies with the centre.

- Appointment of governor is done by the centre unilaterally.

Need for a strong Centre/Conclusion

Notably Punchhi commission remarked the need for a strong centre in light of unity of the nation and to deal with

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secessionist tendencies.

Centralization however must go hand in hand with demands of state autonomy in view of achieving cooperative federalism.

Decentralization of adequate powers is a sign of a healthy democracy.

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9. The parliamentary control over government and administration in India is more theoretical than practical. Discuss.

भारत में सरकार और प्रशासन पर संसदीय नियंत्रण व्यावहारिक की अपेक्षा सैद्धांतिक अधिक है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The parliament is the supreme legislative body. It aims to ensure accountability of the executive and constructive policy making.

Parliamentary control over Executive

- Presence of in house books such as Question Hours, Zero Hour etc increase executive's accountability.
- Impeachment / Removal process ensures the dignity of high level appointments.
- Parliamentary Committees
  - Detailed Scrutiny of legislation
  - Accomodate diverse view
  - Analyse specific issues.
  - Analyse policies of ministries
  - Submit reports

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- No Confidence motion: Under Article 75, council of ~~executive~~ ministers is collectively responsible to the parliament in general.

Challenges to Parliamentary Control

- Majority of ruling party in lower house → voting/decisions on party lines.
- Speaker, elected by the ruling party (due to its majority) often shows bias.
- Impeachment processes suffer due to political causes.
- Reports of parliamentary committees are usually advisory in nature.

What can be done?

1. Increased transparency measures — in terms of sittings of committees and recording dissent.
2. Revamping office of speaker to ensure his impartiality.

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Conclusion

The parliament's controlled over executive, while detailed, suffers from several lacunae due to political reasons. Addressing these is necessary to ensure a healthy democracy.

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10. Why did the Constituent Assembly replace the original plan to have elected governors in favour of appointment by the President? Also, bring out the arguments that are raised against the current form of appointment of Governors.

संविधान सभा ने निर्वाचित राज्यपाल होने की मूल योजना को राष्ट्रपति द्वारा नियुक्त राज्यपाल के पक्ष में क्यों प्रतिस्थापित कर दिया? साथ ही, राज्यपालों की नियुक्ति के वर्तमान तरीके के विरुद्ध दिए जाने वाले तर्कों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Under the constitutional scheme in India, while the President is elected, the governor is unilaterally appointed by the centre.

Reasons

- Governor is only a nominal head.
- Further, while the office of President represents the Union, the governor only represents a state.
- Election process will be expensive and time consuming.
- May lead to unnecessary politicisation at the state level.
- Superfluous as Chief Minister has the real power.

Thus they decided to have the governor appointed by President.

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Issues in Appointment form of govt

- Indirect control by centre which is misused in many cases.
  1. Imposition of emergency.
  2. Calling CM candidate in case of hung assembly.
     eg: Karnataka floor test
  3. Delaying passing of bills.
  4. Reserving bills for President.
- Making use of discretionary power in conflict with state government.
- Appointment of loyalists of ruling party at the centre.

What can be done?

In S. R. Bommai (1994), SC put a check on the misuse of governor's power to impose President's rule.

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Similar guidelines can be set for other discretionary powers.

Adopting the process laid out by Sarkaria commission for selection of governor — to achieve a healthy cooperative democracy.

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11. Explaining the concept of judicial activism, discuss why it is important for courts not to take over the functions of the legislature or the executive.

न्यायिक सक्रियता की अवधारणा की व्याख्या करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि न्यायालयों के लिए विधायिका या कार्यपालिका के कार्यों का अतिक्रमण न करना क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है।

Judicial Activism refers to the proactive role played by the judiciary in ensuring complete execution of justice. It is the opposite of judicial restraint.

Advantages

- Allows compensating for the inadequate efforts of executive / legislature.
- Aims to achieve holistic justice i.e justice that is socially and economically desirable.
- Addresses the gaps in administration's exercise of its duties.

PIL

- Successful example of judicial activism.
- Allows any public spirited citizen to fight for the rights of the weaker sections or the public in general.

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- Relaxes the requirement of locus standi.

Issues with Judicial Activism

- Against the doctrine of separation of powers.
- Excess of jurisdiction is unhealthy for a democracy.
- Judiciary is not popularly elected
  ↓
  It has no right to legislate, which is a function of elected representatives.
- May lead to authoritarian tendencies as power is getting concentrated in the hands of judiciary.
- It may not have the necessary expertise to deal in certain matters.

Way Forward

SC has cautioned judges that:
"Judicial activism must not become

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

judicial adventurism". Thus highlighting the need for judges to exercise some restraint. It may lead to reckless legislation.

The advantages of PIL must be achieved while exercising certain restraint.

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12. Compare the constitutional position of Rajya Sabha with the Lok Sabha in terms of legislative powers. Also bring out special powers given to Rajya Sabha in this context.

विधायी शक्तियों के संदर्भ में लोकसभा के सापेक्ष राज्य सभा की संवैधानिक स्थिति की तुलना कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संदर्भ में राज्य सभा को दी गई विशेष शक्तियों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

The Constitution of India provides for a bicameral legislature at the centre, consisting of the Lower House (Lok Sabha) and Upper House (Rajya Sabha).

Rajya Sabha vs. Lok Sabha

Constitution of houses:

① Lok Sabha is directly elected while RS is indirectly elected by members of legislative assembly.

② Lok Sabha represents the people in general, while RS represents the states.

Legislative Powers:

① With regard to ordinary bills they have similar powers.

② However a joint sitting is presided over by the speaker.

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(3) Money bills can only be certified by the speaker.

(4) Final power to pass a money bill also rests with the lok Sabha.

↓

Rajya Sabha can atmost delay it for 14 days.

In other matters such as passage of a constitutional amendment bill both have similar powers.

Special powers of Rajya sabha

(1) Under Article 249, it can authorize the parliament to legislate on a state subject.

(2) Under Article 312, it can authorize the parliament to create an All India service.

Conclusion

The Rajya Sabha has a "unique" position in the constitutional scheme.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

While it is inferior in some aspects, it also has special powers.

Overall it represents the states and checks hasty legislation.

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13. Comment upon the distribution of legislative subjects between the Centre and states. Under what circumstances does the Parliament make laws on matters enumerated in the State list?

केंद्र और राज्यों के मध्य विधायी विषयों के वितरण पर टिप्पणी कीजिए। किन परिस्थितियों में संसद राज्य सूची में उल्लिखित विषयों पर विधि बना सकती है?

The distribution of legislative subjections are well defined under Schedule 7 of the constitution

List I — Union list (~ 97 subjects)
List II — State list (~ 50 subjects)
List III — Concurrent list (~ 60 subjects)

Distribution of legislative powers

- States have exclusive power on subjects in State list, while centre has exclusive power in Centre list.
- In case of concurrent list both have concurrent powers.
  ↓
  However the state law is subject to the overriding power of the central law.
- Further there are provisions for mutual delegation of legislative powers.

eg: ~~Centre can make a state law on the request of 2 or more states.~~

eg: With permission of governor, by Centre.

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Parliament can also make laws on subjects mentioned in the state list in certain circumstances.

Special Circumstances

① During National Emergency:
- It does not debar the state from legislating.
- Laws are applicable only until 6 months after emergency.

② During President's rule:
The state assembly is either dissolved or suspended.

③ When two or more states make a request.

④ Under Article 249: When Rajya Sabha passes a resolution to that effect.

⑤ Under Article 253: To give effect to certain international agreements and treaties.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Conclusion

The distribution of powers has an inherent central bias — in view of the unity and integrity of the nation.
The special circumstances highlight the flexibility of the constitution to meet unforeseen circumstances.

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14. Explain the significance of the concept of 'separation of powers' in a democracy. What can be the reasons for India not following the doctrine in the strict sense?

लोकतंत्र में 'शक्तियों के पृथक्करण' की अवधारणा के महत्व को स्पष्ट कीजिए। भारत द्वारा इस सिद्धांत का कठोर अर्थों में अनुपालन न किये जाने के क्या कारण हो सकते हैं?

Separation of powers refers to the clear demarcation of powers and responsibilities b/w different organs of state.

Significance of Doctrine

- Allows for a "system of checks and balances"
- Prevents concentration of power in the hands of few.
- Well defined demarcation reduces the scope for conflicts.
- Harmonious cooperation b/w different organs is essential for a healthy democracy.
- Each organ has expertise in different matters and must exercise powers accordingly.

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However in India, the executive and legislature are not strictly separated as the council of ministers (executive) is an integral part of the legislature. Further the ruling party has (necessarily) a majority in legislature.

Reasons

- India follows a parliamentary form of government and not presidential form.
  ↓
  emphasises on cooperation b/w legislature and executive.
- Promotes stability to the government.
- In case of strict separation, the legislature and executive will be in perpetual conflict.
- Historical reasons: India adopted this form as it had experience in this form since British days.

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Conclusion

Separation of powers is necessary to prevent despotism and sustain a healthy democracy.

Cooperation b/w legislature and executive provides stability to the parliament system.

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15. Explain the grounds on which a National Emergency can be declared and highlight its effects on Centre-state relations and Fundamental Rights.

उन आधारों की व्याख्या कीजिए जिन पर राष्ट्रीय आपातकाल घोषित किया जा सकता है एवं केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों और मूल अधिकारों पर पड़ने वाले इसके प्रभावों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

The constitution has provisions relating to Emergency under Articles 352-360.

The National emergency can be imposed on the following grounds:

(Under Article 352)

1. External Aggression
2. War
3. Armed rebellion (internal)

Thus it acts as a safeguard to ~~prevent~~ the integrity and unity of the nation.

Effects on Fundamental Rights

- Under Article 358: The six freedoms (Article 19) are automatically suspended.
- Under Article 359: The president can suspend the enforcement of any fundamental rights, except those under Articles 20 & 21.

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- Immunity is only provided to those laws that are related to the suspended rights.

Effects on Centre-State relations

- Centre has overriding and supreme powers in legislative matters.
- In financial matters, it can suspend the devolution of resources/ alter their distribution.
- It also has executive powers on all matters.

Conclusion

National emergency under Article 352, significantly alters the distribution of powers b/w centre and states.
It temporarily converts the federal polity into "unitary" polity.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. Analyze how the CAG ensures financial accountability of the Executive to the Legislature while working as an independent Constitutional body.

विश्लेषण कीजिए कि एक स्वतंत्र संवैधानिक निकाय के रूप में कार्य करते हुए CAG, विधायिका के प्रति कार्यपालिका की वित्तीय जवाबदेही को किस प्रकार सुनिश्चित करता है?

The office of CAG has been established under Article 148 of the constitution. It is visualized as the guardian of public purse in India.

Independence of CAG

- Provided with fixed tenure.
- Salaries and other emoluments are charged on the consolidated fund.
- Cannot be represented by any minister in parliament.
- Directly responsible to the parliament.

Role of CAG

Audit

- Legal and regulatory Audit → MANDATORY
- Proprietary Audit → DISCRETIONARY

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The legal audit looks at various dimensions such as:

1. Lawfulness
2. Cases of corruption
3. Whether due process has been followed.

Proprietary Audit looks at

1. Wastefulness of expenditure
2. Extravagance
3. Prudence of underlying policy

Ensures financial Accountability

- Conducts both legal and proprietary audit for central and state governments.
  - ↓
  - Along with these it also audits the reports of various public undertakings.
- Acts as a guide to the Public Account Committee and Committee on public undertakings.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Tabulates 3 reports in the parliament
  - Public undertakings
  - Public Accounts
  - Misc

Issues in functioning of CAG

- Reports are advisory.
- Work is of a "post-mortem" nature.
- CAG has no control over issuance of money.

Conclusion

While the CAG aims to secure financial accountability to the executive, its advisory and post-mortem nature significantly reduces its powers.

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17. Highlight the veto powers of the President of India. How does the veto powers of the Governor differ from that of the President?

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की वीटो शक्तियों पर प्रकाश डालिए। राज्यपाल की वीटो शक्तियां राष्ट्रपति की शक्तियों से किस प्रकार भिन्न हैं?

The Office of President is established under Article 52 of the constitution.

In regards to passage of an ordinary bill, the president has certain veto powers:

① Absolute Veto: Can withhold assent to a bill.

② Suspensive Veto: Can return the bill for reconsideration of the parliament. However he must give assent, if the bill is presented again.

③ Pocket Veto: Not taking any action on the bill.

With regards to money bills he does not have suspensive veto.

With regards to Constitutional amendment bills giving assent is mandatory.

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Veto of Governor vs President

- Their veto powers are almost similar.
- However when the governor ~~reserves~~ reserves a bill for the President – who returns it – then it must be presented to the President again.
  ↓
  Here he still has absolute veto unlike in case of parliamentary bills.

Need for Veto / Usefulness

- Checks hasty legislation.
- Can stop bills that are driven by perverse political interests.
- Symbol of the president's prestige in the constitutional scheme of things.

Conclusion

Both the President and Governor have been given similar veto powers with minor differences.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. Even though the parliamentary system of government in India is largely based on the British parliamentary model it never became a replica of the British system. Elaborate.

यद्यपि भारत में सरकार की संसदीय प्रणाली मुख्य रूप से ब्रिटिश संसदीय मॉडल पर आधारित है तथापि यह कभी भी ब्रिटिश प्रणाली की प्रतिकृति नहीं बनी। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

The Indian parliamentary system is largely based on the British parliament as it draws its major underlying provisions from the Govt of India Act, 1935.

Similarities

- Presence of a bicameral legislature.
  Lok Sabha ~ House of Commons
  Rajya Sabha ~ House of Lords
- Presence of a nominal head of state.
- Responsible form of government.
- Council of ministers and "Cabinet".

Despite these similarities it could never become a replica as there are certain differences.

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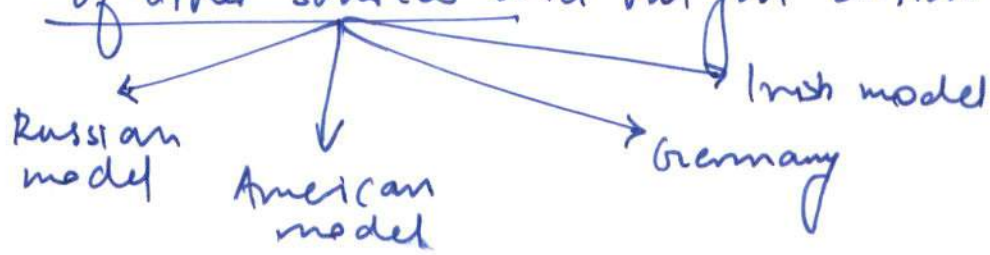
Differences

- In India, parliament is not supreme as its powers are bounded by a written constitution. Britain has an unwritten constitution.
- India has an elected head of state, while Britain has a monarchial head.
- India has federal polity, while British model is largely unitary.

Reasons

- Indian Constitution drew from a lot of other sources and not just British



- To accomodate for the wide diversity of the country.
- Account for customary features of Indian Society.

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Conclusion

While Indian parliament largely drew its inspiration from the British model, it has significant differences with it.

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19. A number of judicial pronouncements and constitutional amendments have altered the balance between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of Sate Policy since the commencement of the constitution. Analyse.

संविधान के लागू होने के पश्चात से अनेक न्यायिक निर्णयों और संविधान संशोधनों ने मूल अधिकारों और राज्य की नीति के निदेशक तत्वों के मध्य के संतुलन को परिवर्तित कर दिया है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The Constitution under Part-III and Part IV provides for the Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles respectively.

Various judicial pronouncements have altered the balance b/w the two:

① In Gopal Nath (1967): SC held the fundamental rights to be sacrosanct and immutable.
They were given a position superior to DPSPs.

② In Kesavananda (1973): SC reversed its earlier stand. Fundamental rights were declared amendable subject to the basic structure doctrine.

③ In Minerva Mills (1980): SC held that the constitution is founded

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as the bedrock of balance b/w fundamental rights and DPSPs.

Current Position

① Both FRs and DPSPs are amendable subject to the basic structure doctrine.

② FRs can be amended to give effect to DPSPs as long as it does not destroy the basic structure.

This is also evident from the fact that Articles 31-A, 31-B, 31-C have been upheld as constitutionally valid.

③ In I.R. Coelho (2007): SC held the "blanket immunity" under 9th schedule to be unconstitutional.

Conclusion

As remarked in Minerva mills, the constitution is based on

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a delicate balance b/w FRs and DPSPs. The exercise of one must not come in the way of other.

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20. Highlight the powers and functions of the Election Commission of India (ECI). Also, discuss the issues regarding the independence and impartiality of the ECI.

भारत के निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) की शक्तियों और कार्यों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, ECI की स्वतंत्रता और निष्पक्षता से संबंधित मुद्दों की चर्चा कीजिए।

The Constitution under Article 324 provides for an Election Commission as an independent body to conduct free and fair elections.

Powers and Functions

- To register political parties.
- To give recognition - "National" & "State" to parties.
- Preparation of electoral rolls.
- Announcing schedule of elections.
- Enforcing model code of conduct, looking into cases of violation.
- Cancellation of polling in case of booth rigging or any malpractice.
- Disqualification of candidates found using criminal means.

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Thus as evident above it has the power to conduct elections in a free and fair manner.

Issues regarding Independence

① CEC/EC have not been provided with a fixed tenure (under Constitution).

② They are not barred from further employment. This may lead to quid pro quo.

③ Constitution does not specify qualifications of either the CEC or EC.

Recent Controversies

- Its independence has come into question over its inability to deal with "alleged" violations by ruling party.
- Further the EC failed to tackle the EVM controversy in a convincing manner.

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Conclusion

Credibility in EC is essential for the conduct of free and fair elections, which form the core of a healthy democracy.

The appointment process (unilaterally by Government) must be amended to include members of opposition.

13

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1394)

Name of Candidate	ARTH JAIN		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	488737
Center	ORN	Date	10/11/19

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.
12.5X20=250

1. Explain the value-added, income and expenditure methods of estimating national income.

राष्ट्रीय आय के आकलन की मूल्य-वर्धित, आय और व्यय विधियों को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

National income refers to the total value of goods and services produced by an economy over a period of 1 year.

Approach to calculating NI

(1) Value-added approach:

- Sums up the value added at each stage. This is also known as GVA.
- It makes sure that intermediate consumption is thus subtracted.
- It is the official method used by CSO to calculate GDP.

(2) Income approach:

Based on the assumption that income earned is proportionate to value produced.

- It adds up what different factors earn.

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Labour → Wages
Capital → Interest
Land → Rent
Entrepreneurship → Profits

This summation for various sectors give the NI.

(3) Expenditure approach:

Based on the assumption that amount spent in consumption must equal the total value produced.

$NI = C + I + G + XM$

- C → Consumption, eg: Buying a new car
- I → Investment, eg: Real estate
- G → Government expenditure
- XM → Exports − Imports

Theoretically all 3 methods must give same value, however due to reasons such as:

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- Underreporting
- Black money & parallel economy
- Informal sector, which is cash reliant
- Accounting errors,

The 3 approaches give slightly different sums.

Conclusion

Measure of NI is representative of a country's economic potential and size. Both GDP and GNP can be used.

In India,

NI = NNP @ Market price.

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2. Explain why Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector is regarded as the 'growth engine' of the Indian economy. Suggest key reforms that are required for improving the overall business climate for MSMEs in India.

स्पष्ट कीजिए कि क्यों सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम (MSME) क्षेत्रक को भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था का 'ग्रोथ इंजन' (वृद्धि इंजन) माना जाता है। भारत में MSMEs के लिए समग्र व्यावसायिक परिवेश में सुधार लाने हेतु आवश्यक महत्वपूर्ण सुधारों का सुझाव दीजिए।

MSME sector accounts for ~29% of GDP and ~45% of manufacturing output. It contributes immensely to employment generation.

MSMEs as the growth engine

- Account for least NPAs and hence a key to sustainable growth.
- Inculcate a "local connect" thus promoting inclusive development.
- Due to their ubiquitous presence, they can address regional imbalances, → Crucial for growth of economy
- Contribute to employment generation at the local level.
- Contribute to export sector, ~28% of exports are by MSMEs.

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Problems faced by MSME Sector

- Access to capital: Heavy reliance on informal sources of credit.
- Regulatory compliance due to red tapism and bureaucratic inefficiency
- Lack of modern technology
- Cannot exploit economies of scale due to their small size.

Key Reforms/Way Forward

- Portals such as "59 Minutes" can make access to capital easier.
- Randomized inspection to save MSMEs from harassment.
- Mandating PSUs to buy portion of their products from MSMEs.
- Special initiatives for women-led MSMEs.

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- Addressing the gaps in MUDRA Yojana.

Conclusion

MSMEs in India contribute the least to NPAs, putting them in a favourable position vis-a-vis other companies. Taylored initiatives for this sector can thus give great returns.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. The average size of holdings has shown a steady declining trend over the last three decades. What are the challenges faced by farmers due to fragmentation of land? What needs to be done in this regard?

विगत तीन दशकों के दौरान जोतों के औसत आकार में निरंतर गिरावट की प्रवृत्ति देखी गई है। भूमि के विखंडन के कारण किसानों को किन चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है? इस संबंध में क्या किये जाने की आवश्यकता है?

The stagnation of agriculture and its low growth rate of 3% calls for urgent reforms. Of these the issue of land reforms is crucial.

Land Fragmentation crisis

- Average size of landholding was 1.08 ha per farmer, much lesser than 4 ha in 1960s.
- This was a consequence of high fertility rate → division of land among sons.

Challenges

- Productivity decreases, as a farmer is unable to exploit economies of scale.
- Capital costs, such as buying a tractor remain the same, even with smaller land holding.

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This discourages farmers from capital investments.

- Monocropping : Small land holding makes crop diversification difficult, making the farmer vulnerable.
- low produce (in absolute terms), which keeps the farmers in perpetual debt.

Possible reforms

- Cooperativization (as promoted by Nagpur resolution of 1959) must be explored once again.
- Problem of disguised unemployment must be corrected to increase per capita productivity.
- Use of techniques such as precision farming to ↑ productivity.
  - Use of ICT
  - Drip irrigation
  - SHGs

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Diversifying to other sectors i.e exploring inland fisheries / sericulture to augment income.

Way Forward

Recommendations of Ashok Dalwai committee must be looked into, to double the farmers income.

The persistent threat of desertification also makes the issue of land fragmentation much more crucial.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. Distinguishing between a flexible and fixed exchange rate system, explain how exchange rate is determined under a flexible exchange rate system.

लचीली और स्थिर विनिमय दर प्रणाली के मध्य अंतर स्पष्ट करते हुए, समझाइए कि लचीली विनिमय दर प्रणाली के अंतर्गत विनिमय दर कैसे निर्धारित होती है।

Exchange rate determines the rate of interchanging different currencies.

Eg: 1 $ can be exchanged to obtain 72 rupees and vice versa

Types of exchange rate system:

Flexible exchange rate:

Based on the ideology of "laissez faire", here the rate of exchange is market determined. No government intervention takes place.

Fixed exchange rate:

Here the rate of exchange is determined by the central bank of a country. The exchange rate does not reflect the demand of the currency in the global market. Thus this system is not preferred.

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Semi-flexible rate: (Float-pegged)

Here the currency rate is largely market determined with occasional interference by the central bank.

eg: China follows this.

Working of a flexible exchange rate

- The rate is determined by the market based on its supply/demand.
- The central bank does not intervene. USA follows this system.

What determines demand?

Economic conditions in the country, i.e how conducive an economy is for business, prevailing interest rates, inflation etc.

Example:

- Country with high savings rate would attract foreign currency thus appreciating home currency.

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- High inflation would lead to weakening of currency.
- External borrowings would increase i.e strengthen currency.

Supply:

- Excessive printing of notes by central bank would increase supply.
- This would weaken currency.

Conclusion

Exchange rate, whether flexibly determined or fixed, has a crucial role in a country's economic interaction with the world.

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5. Discuss why enacting appropriate land leasing laws should be given priority in India.

चर्चा कीजिए कि भारत में उपयुक्त भूमि पट्टा कानूनों के अधिनियमन को प्राथमिकता क्यों दी जानी चाहिए।

Land, as a state subject, has always been controversial due to increased litigation relating to leasing cases.

Need for reforms in Land leasing:

- Archaic laws, which are not suited to needs of today.
- Heavily biased towards tenant, which discourages leasing.
- Slow judicial process, which often locks away capital.
- Land forms an important capital for businesses. Proper leasing will benefit both sides.
- Increasing desertification, ~~has~~ along with increasing population is making land a scarce resource.

↓

Increased population pressure

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- Even in case of agriculture, appropriate Leasing laws may allow for cooperativisation or better avenues of contract farming.

What can be done?

- Reforms in LARR Act, that has been a source of contention.
- Model Law on Land Leasing can be drafted by the central govt.
- Pre-leasing agreements must be made more detailed.
- Land leasing laws should be balanced b/w Landowner and tenant.

Conclusion

Increasing population pressure on Land, calls for urgent reforms in land leasing laws.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of a country can not be taken as an index of the welfare of the people of that country. Analyse.

किसी देश के सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (GDP) को उस देश के लोगों के कल्याण का सूचक नहीं माना जा सकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

GDP refers to the total value of goods and services produced by a country (within its geographical borders) in a span of 1 year.

Way of calculation :

- Income method
- Expenditure method
- Value added method

Why "GDP as an index" fails?

- Imperfect proxy for the social welfare of a country.
- For instance, increased military expenditure or expenditure on sin goods increases GDP but does nothing for welfare of people.
- Does not address inequality:
  1. Gender inequality is ignored
  2. Economic inequality is not

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

reflected in GDP.
Despite India's increasing GDP, today 1% own 73% wealth. (Oxfam)

- Social indicators such as happiness peace or physcological state are not addressed.
- Even education/healthcare are addressed "quantitatively" and not "qualitatively".
- Regional imbalances are also ignored in calculation of GDP.

What can be done

- Moving to a different index.
  eg: Bhutan bases its policy making on its Happiness index.
- Incorporating inequality: Basing policy making on inequality adjusted GDP - both in gender terms and economic inequality terms.

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- Green GDP: Takes into account environmental damage done.
- Basing policy making on "outcomes" rather than "outputs".

↓

Promote a culture of quality over quantity.

Conclusion

Considering how GDP fails to address crucial developmental indicators, health of an economy must not be solely judged on GDP.

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7. Bringing out the difference between depreciation and devaluation of a currency, explain how they affect foreign trade of a country.

मुद्रा के मूल्यह्रास और अवमूल्यन के मध्य अंतर प्रकट करते हुए, स्पष्ट कीजिए कि ये किसी देश के विदेशी व्यापार को कैसे प्रभावित करते हैं।

Depreciation and devaluation both refer to weakening of a currency. This implies the "purchasing power" of a currency diminishes vis-a-vis other currencies.

Depreciation	vs. Devaluation
Determined by free market	Done by central bank of a country.
Reflects the demand of currency in global market.	Is not reflective of prevailing trends in market.
Considered natural.	Considered unethical.

Effect on Foreign trade

- Weakening of currency favours exports over imports, while strengthening favours imports.

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- The effects are almost similar in case of both devaluation/ depreciation.

Effect on imports :

- Weakened currency favours domestic exports.
- However since it makes import of raw materials more expensive, some exports suffer.
- Import bill increases: In India, oil bill is very sensitive to currency fluctuations.

Depreciation in Indian Content

- India has set a target of increasing its share in global trade from 2.1% to 3.5%.
- A depreciated currency would thus make it more achievable.
- Certain sectors such as electronics or apparel have an inverted duty structure. These will suffer.

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- Weakening of currency can be due to inflation, which would then increase price of exports.

Conclusion

Exchange rate is crucial in determining the health of country's external sector. With India's aim of safeguarding domestic interests, a slightly depreciated currency is acceptable.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. Explain the mechanism of credit creation by the banking system in an economy. What are the factors that limit such credit creation?
अर्थव्यवस्था में बैंकिंग प्रणाली द्वारा साख सृजन की क्रियाविधि को स्पष्ट कीजिए। ऐसे कौन-से कारक हैं जो इस तरह के साख सृजन को सीमित करते हैं?

Credit creation is the basic essence of the banking system.

Mechanism of Credit creation

- A bank has both assets and liabilities.
  - assets → loans given out
  - liabilities → savings accepted.
- It gives out loans at higher interest rates and accepts savings at a lower interest rate.
- The difference in the rates correspond to a bank's profit.

Money multiplication

- Loans given out, lead to consumption or investment which generate further income.
- This income is deposited in another bank. The cycle continues.

This is known as credit creation.

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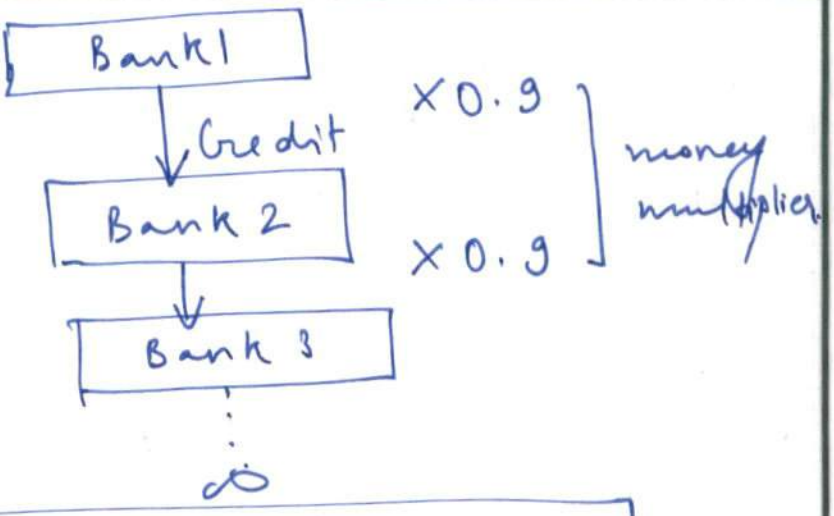


Limitations on credit creation

Reserve ratios: High value of CRR / SLR forces banks to keep a portion of their assets aside. This decreases the quantity available to lend.

Financial inclusion: Significant section of society still does not have access to proper banking facilities.

Rise of NPAs: Leads to wealth being locked away. The gross NPAs currently stand at Rs. 9.1 lakh crores.

Banking frauds: Lead to loss of faith in banking system and public withdraws their wealth.
eg: PMC Bank Scam.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

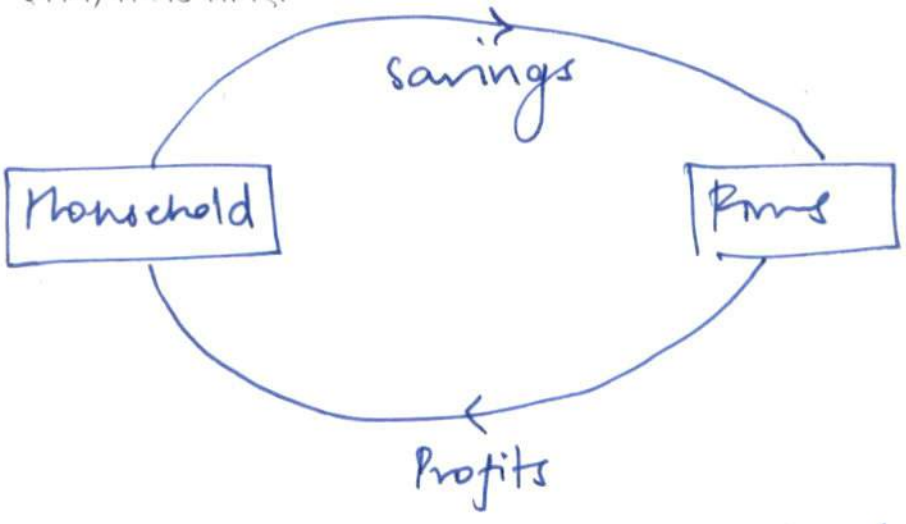
Way Forward

1. Projects / Schemes like Jan Dhan Yojana can increase financial inclusion.
2. NPAs can be tackled by Project Sashakt or IBC 2016.
3. Digital literacy must be increased to make "net banking" accessible.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. With the help of a diagram, explain the circular flow of income in a simple economy.

एक रेखाचित्र की सहायता से, सरल अर्थव्यवस्था में आय के वर्तुल प्रवाह (सर्कुलर फ्लो ऑफ़ इनकम) को स्पष्ट कीजिए।



In a simple economy, the circular flow of income explains how households and firms mutually reinforce each other.

Working

- Households invest their savings in different places, eg: Banks, bonds, stock market.
- These savings act as the source of capital for firms.
- Firms engage in business activity and generate profits.

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- These profits are used to pay ~~wages~~ wages of workers.
- These workers are the earning units of households.
- Thus income flows back to households.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Explain the meaning of Balance of Payments and give an account of various components included within current and capital account.

भुगतान संतुलन का अर्थ स्पष्ट कीजिए तथा चालू और पूँजी खाते में सम्मिलित विभिन्न घटकों का विवरण दीजिए।

Balance of payments refers to the net value of economic transactions of a country's citizens with the rest of the world.

Components of BoP
- Current Account
  - Visibles
    - eg: Goods
  - Invisibles
    - Services
    - Transfer payments
- Capital Account
  - Debt
  - Non-debt

Capital Account

Involves payments that either create debt or reduce liabilities or lead to a change in capital assets.

Examples:

- External borrowing comes under capital recipts as a debt.

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- Disinvestment (to a foreign company) would be a capital receipt (non debt)
- Investment in a foreign plant would be a capital expenditure.

Current Account:

Visibles: These given an account of trade in goods i.e. merchandise.

India → Exports ~ $330 bil
India → Imports ~ $510 bil

Invisibles: Such as trade in services or transfer payments.
eg: IT service comes under this.

Examples:
It includes all those that involve revenue expenditure or revenue receipt.

Salary of employees — Interest on loans

CAD: (Current account deficit)
Is the net difference in expenditure and receipts. India has a CAD ~ $54 billion.

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Current account surplus: Opposite of CAD.

Implications of BoP

- High CAD must be compensated by a ~~current~~ Capital account surplus, else it would deplete forex reserves.
- Capital Account surplus brings in FDI/technology that helps in economic development.
- Sustained CAD, which is not compensated by CAS will lead to outflow of forex → weakening of currency.

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11. Explain the demand-pull and cost-push factors of inflation in India.
भारत में मांग-प्रेरित और लागत-जनित मुद्रास्फीति के कारकों को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Inflation refers to the continuous increase in prices of commodities over a time period.

Types of Inflation

Demand pull: Caused due to increase in either aggregate demand or increase in demand of a specific commodity.

Examples:

① Increase in income would lead to increase demand & hence inflation.

② Decrease in supply would lead to a" relative increase in demand and hence inflation.
eg: Case of Onion prices

Cost push: Caused due to structural changes that increase the cost of production and hence the overall price of products.

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Examples

① Decrease in availability of labour would make final product more expensive.

② Increase in prices of raw materials.

Impact of inflation

- High inflation is not conducive to economic growth. Can also lead to hyperinflation in extreme cases.
- Poor people and people on fixed incomes suffer.
- Mild inflation is desirable for an economy and benefits businesses.
- Extremely low inflation could lead to deflation → deflationary spiral, eventually leading to recession.

What can be done?

- Addressing structural reforms, that lead to a decrease in cost of production

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- Acting against black marketing & hoarding (under Essential Commodities Act) to stop artificial rise in prices.
- Increasing interest rates that discourage borrowing.
- Performing OMOs to decrease money supply.

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12. Explain the different quantitative and qualitative policy tools used to regulate money supply in the economy.

अर्थव्यवस्था में मुद्रा की आपूर्ति को विनियमित करने के लिए प्रयुक्त विभिन्न मात्रात्मक और गुणात्मक नीतिगत साधनों को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Under monetary policy, RBI undertakes measures to regulate the money supply and ensure financial stability.

Tools

Quantitative:

1. Increasing / decreasing repo rates to regulate the supply of money. Increase in repo would discourage borrowing and encourage saving.
2. Performing open Market operations (OMOs). This was extensively carried out during the 2008 financial crisis.
3. Changing reserve ratios such as CRR/SLR. Decrease in CRR would lead to an increase in money supply.

Qualitative:

1. Moral Suasion: Informal / formal meetings b/w central bank and other

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banks to enforce desired plan.

(2) Credit rationing: would lead to change in availability of credit.

(3) PSL Norms: This can change the distribution of credit, thus indirectly influencing money supply in economy.

Effectiveness of Tools

- Transmission of change in benchmark rates is below par.
- Moral suasion may not always work.
- PSL norms are often exploited by using legal loopholes.

Way Forward

- Linking bank rate with repo rate in a transparent manner. As done by RBI in relation to MCLR.
- Increasing venues for PSL to increase monitory compliance.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Keeping optimal CRR / SLR that does not interfere with lending while ensuring sufficient reserves in case of a bank run.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. What is liquidity trap? Discuss its implications on the economy.

तरलता पाश (लिक्विडिटी ट्रैप) क्या है? अर्थव्यवस्था पर इसके निहितार्थों की विवेचना कीजिए।

Liquidity trap is a situation where transmission of relaxation in interest rate is unable to pass on to the final borrowers.

i.e Despite the central bank decreasing its repo rate

Either banks don't decrease lending rates OR lending still doesn't take place with low interest rates

Causes of Liquidity trap:

- Improper transmission of benchmark rates.
- Uncertainty in economy, which leads businesses to hold back investments for a while.
- Political uncertainty, particularly near general elections.
- Global uncertainities like trade war or protectionist policies.

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Implications on Economy

- Slowdown in consumption and investment.
- May lead to recession.
- Unemployment increases, which can lead to social unrest.
- Capital formation decreases, growth thus decreases or becomes unsustainable.
- Trade is hampered, as domestic manufacturers face cash crunch and aggregate demand is low.

Possible Measures

- ~~Stri~~ Open market operations directly by central bank to increase money supply.
- Making it mandatory for lending rate to be linked to repo rate thus ensuring transmission of policy.

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- Possible liquidity boosting measures such as tax cuts or recapitalisation

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Why is the RBI called as the 'lender of last resort'? What other functions are performed by RBI while acting as a banker to commercial banks and the government?

RBI को 'अंतिम ऋणदाता' क्यों कहा जाता है? वाणिज्यिक बैंकों एवं सरकार के बैंकर के रूप में कार्य करते हुए RBI द्वारा और क्या कार्य सम्पादित किए जाते हैं?

RBI is envisaged as the central bank of India under the RBI Act, 1934.

Lender of last resort

- In case of liquidity mismatches, banks can borrow from other banks.
- When this is not possible they can undertake short term lending from RBI @ repo rate.
- In case of long term liquidity mismatches, RBI has provisions such as MSF - Marginal standing facility.

Other Functions of RBI

- Banker to both private banks and the government.
- Regulates private banks and PSBs under Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

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- In charge of printing currency.
- Keeps the foreign exchange of the country.
- Performing OMO/ sterilisation measures to control money supply in economy.
- Budget deficit was earlier monetised, which involved printing notes by RBI.
- Regulates money supply by adjusting CRR/SLR.
- Ensures distributive justice through Priority Sector Lending (PSL) norms.

Monetary Policy Framework

- Under this RBI has been ~~too~~ mandated to target inflation.
- The target of 4 ± 2 % is based on the consumer price index (CPI).
- It also decides the repo rates and the economic stance every 60 days.

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Conclusions

Apart from acting as the lender of last resort, RBI is envisaged as the regulator of money supply and guardian of financial system of India.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. What are the key issues in fiscal management in India? How can these issues be addressed?

भारत में राजकोषीय प्रबंधन में प्रमुख समस्याएं क्या हैं? इन समस्याओं को कैसे दूर किया जा सकता है?

Fisal management refers to government policies such as adjusting spending levels or tax rates. It is intended to achieve desired economic outcomes like reduction in inflation/unemployment.

Fisal management

- Fiscal discipline
- Fiscal prudence
- Fiscal consolidation

Key issues in Fiscal management

- Strict target of 3% fiscal deficit is often difficult to achieve.
- Strict adherance to targets of deficit leave less fiscal space for government expenditure.
- Low tax-to-GDP ratio of 17%, is a constraint on the revenue side of the government.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Populist measures such as loan waivers, free electricity come with a high fiscal cost.

Implications of fiscal management

- High FD leads to inflation and weakening of currency.
- Sustained FD leads to accumulation of high debt, creating a situation for a debt trap.
- Can lead to crowding out of private sector.
- Make interest payments a substantial expenditure. Currently at 20% of annual budget.

Reforms

As per N K Singh Committee

1. Fiscal deficit ~~of~~ target of 2.5% must be achieved by FY23.
2. Establishing a FISCAL COUNCIL to address the issue of fiscal management.

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(3) Debt-to-GDP target of 60% (combined) and 40% for centre.

(4) Rationalizing subsidies.

eg: Food subsidy alone amounts to 0.8% of GDP or ~Rs. 1.5 lakh crores.

Conclusion

Fiscal management is a key for sustained economic growth.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. What is sterilization? Explain how it is deployed by RBI in stabilizing the money supply against external shocks.

स्थिरीकरण (स्टरलाइजेशन) क्या है? समझाइए कि बाह्य आघातों के विरुद्ध मुद्रा की आपूर्ति स्थिर रखने में RBI द्वारा कैसे इसका उपयोग किया जाता है।

Sterilization measures are carried out by a central bank to stabilize money supply and prevent any excess inflation.

Role of RBI

- In case of excessive money supply in the economy, RBI conducts OMOs to decrease money supply.
  ↓
  Lead to a decrease in money supply.
- In case of too less money in the economy, reverse OMOs are conducted.

Money supply & External Shocks

- Flow of excess foreign capital into the economy, which increases the demand for local currency.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Effects of global crisis. eg: 2008 crisis led to firing of many MNC employees in India.
- Oil shocks can increase import bill.
- Periods of high inflation / or hyper inflation are characterized by increased money supply.
- Protectionist policies - such as withdrawal of GSP hamper exports.
- Currency volatility: RBI may end up buying dollars, which would lead to infusion of rupee. This would need to be sterilized.

Conclusion

In order to maintain the stability of financial system of India, RBI conducts sterilization measures whenever money supply sharply increases.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. Bringing out the difference between fiscal deficit, primary deficit and revenue deficit, explain the implications of a high fiscal deficit on the economy.

राजकोषीय घाटा, प्राथमिक घाटा और राजस्व घाटा के मध्य अंतर स्पष्ट करते हुए, अर्थव्यवस्था पर उच्च राजकोषीय घाटे के निहितार्थों की व्याख्या कीजिए।

Deficit simply means excess of expenditure over revenue.

Types of deficit :

① Fiscal deficit: ~~Revenue~~ expenditures exceed ~~revenue~~ receipts. The balance is borne by borrowings.

② Primary deficit: Type of fiscal deficit in which interest payments are excluded.

③ Revenue deficit: Deficit dealing with excesses in revenue expenditure without taking into account grants for creation of capital assets.

Implications of high FD

① Leads to accumulation of debt. Debt-to-GDP currently stands at 68%. (combined).

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(2) Makes interest payment more and more expensive over time.
eg: 20% of annual budget as interest payments.

(3) May create a situation of a debt trap.

(4) Leads to crowding out of private sector.

(5) May lead to weakening of currency.

(6) High FD due to excessive expenditure leads to inflation.

(7) Economy becomes non-conducive for investment opportunities.

Way Forward

As recommended by N K Singh panel

(1) FD target of 2.5% by FY23.

(2) Creation of a fiscal council to look into remedial measures.

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③ Achieving a combined debt to GDP ratio of 60%..

④ Rationalizing subsidies.

eg: Fertilizer subsidy annually costs Rs. 70,000 crores.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. What do you understand by fiscal policy? Explain its key objectives.

राजकोषीय नीति से आप क्या समझते हैं? इसके प्रमुख उद्देश्यों को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

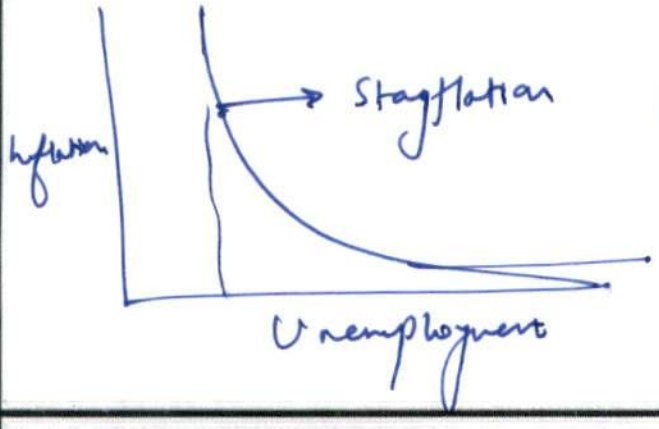
Fiscal policy refers to the macroeconomic measures such as adjustments in government spending or tax rates.

~~It is intended~~

Key objectives

- Economic objectives such as reducing inflation or reducing unemployment need to be met.
- Targeting a sustainable fiscal deficit.
- Adjusting tax rates that favour investment and promote ease of doing business.

Generally, inflation & unemployment have a tradeoff.



Thus some amount of inflation can help reduce unemployment.

(PHILLIPS CURVE)

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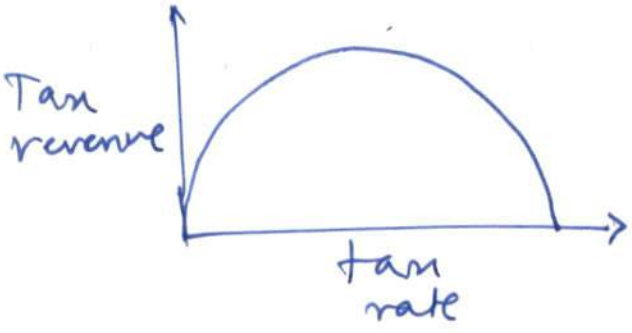
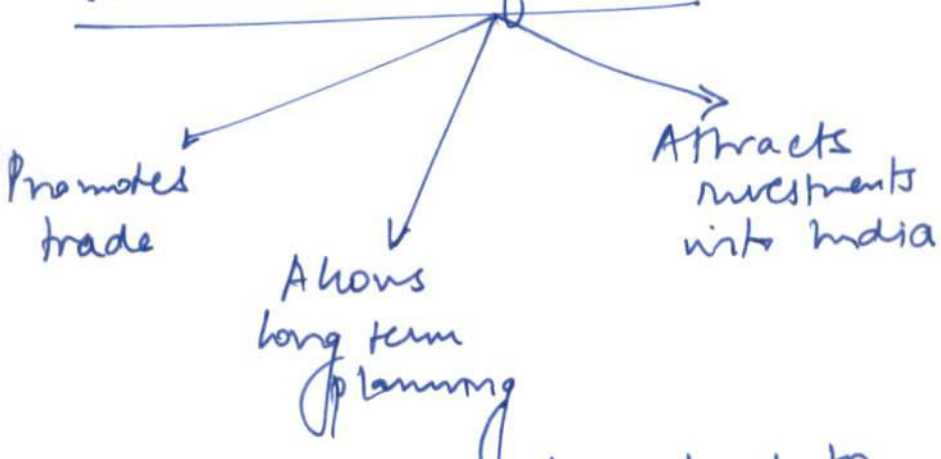
- Even tax revenues are observed to be linked to tax rates.



Laffer curve

- Currency stability is crucial for external sector of India.



- High unemployment can lead to social unrest which is not good for economy.

Conclusion

A good fiscal policy must be based on the broad objectives of fiscal discipline, fiscal prudence and

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

fiscal consolidation.

In view of these, recommendations of N K Singh panel can be explored.

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19. Explain, in brief, the various components of budget receipts and expenditure.

बजट प्राप्तियों और व्यय के विभिन्न घटकों को संक्षेप में स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Budget outlines the incomes and expenditures of a govt. It has been provided for under Article 112 of the Constitution.

Budget Receipts

① Tax sources: Such as GST, Income tax, Corporate tax, additional customs duty etc.

Annually Corporate Tax > IT > GST. for central govt.

In case of state govt + central govt, indirect taxes >> Direct taxes

② Non tax sources: Such as sale of spectrum, profits and dividends of PSUs, fees, royalty charges etc.

Budget Expenditure:

① Devolution to states: As per 14th FC, ~42% of budget is devolved to states.

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(2) Interest payments: Presently amount to ~20% of the budget.

(3) Revenue expenditure: Such as salaries of government officials.

(4) Central Sector Schemes

(5) Centrally sponsored schemes

(6) Distribution b/w various ministries.

eg: Defence ministry got ~Rs. 3 lakh crores in 2019 Budget.

Conclusion

Outcome budgeting must be ~~adopted~~ enforced strictly that links budgetary proposals with quantifiable outcomes.

This secures the accountability of the executive to the public.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. Highlight the monetary and fiscal measures that can be taken to address the phenomenon of inflation. Also explain their limitations.

मुद्रास्फीति की परिघटना से निपटने हेतु उठाए जा सकने वाले मौद्रिक और राजकोषीय उपायों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, उनकी सीमाओं का भी वर्णन कीजिए।

Inflation refers to the sustained increase in general prices or those of a group of commodities.

Monetary Measures:

① Decreasing money supply via OMOs to decrease inflation.

② Increasing CRR/SLR to decrease the quantity of loanable assets.

③ Increasing repo rate to make borrowing more expensive.

Fiscal measures:

① Fiscal discipline: Achieving the 2-5% target of FD as outlined by N K Singh panel. Controlled expenditure

② Fiscal prudence: Cutting down on extravagance.

③ Fiscal consolidation: Ensures that

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debt payment does not become costly.

(4) Increasing tax rates to decrease the amount of disposable income in hand.

Limitations of above approaches:

(1) Policy transmission is not always effective. May lead to a situation of liquidity trap.

(2) Increasing taxes may discourage business activity and threaten recessionary effects.

(3) Political compulsions make fiscal prudence difficult to achieve.

Way Forward

Inflation needs to be addressed urgently as it hurts the poor the most.

Fiscal discipline can be best achieved by rationalizing subsidies and restructuring centrally sponsored schemes.

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Time Control: Spread over multiple days
Total time < 3 hrs

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1414)

Name of Candidate	ARTH JAIN		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	488737
Center	ONLINE	Date	—

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

Sir please remark on:

1. ① Legibility of handwriting
   ② Introductions - are they apt?
   ③ Word limit seems fine?

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. The right to recall is a much-needed step to deepen democracy in India. Critically discuss. (150 words) 10

भारत में लोकतंत्र को सुदृढ़ करने हेतु 'राइट टू रिकॉल' एक अत्यंत आवश्यक कदम है। आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Right to recall is generally present in direct democracies such as Switzerland.

Much needed step

- In line with principles of participative democracy.
- May lead to increased accountability of politicians:
  - fear of recall
  - transparency
  - more proactive citizens
- Citizen centricity of democracy will be maintained.
- Successful international examples such as Switzerland's cantons.
- Local government will also get a boost since it suffers from non accountability.

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Issues with Right to Recall

- May lead to excessive politicization.
- continuous focus of politicians will be on "saving their seat"
  - → Campaigning mode 24X7
  - → populist policies
  - → Mere candidate politics
- Difficult to implement in a large country like India.
- Costly as reelection / recall initiative would need a dedicated machinery.

Way Forward

Instead of recall, reforms in electoral process such as:

- One candidate from only one constituency
- RTI empowered citizens
- Better disclosure of policies
- "De-criminalization" of politics.

This would help make democracy more citizen centric.

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2. For the justice delivery system to work for the ordinary citizen, it is imperative that the issues affecting the functioning of the lower courts in India be urgently addressed. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

आम नागरिक के लिए न्याय वितरण प्रणाली को कारगर बनाने हेतु, भारत में अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों की कार्यप्रणाली को प्रभावित करने वाले मुद्दों पर तत्काल ध्यान दिया जाना आवश्यक है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Constitution provides for a gradation of courts to implement and deliver justice.

Issues affecting lower courts

- High pendency of cases.
  ~ 3.1 crore as per National judicial data grid data.
- Low accountability
  - Cases of corruption
  - opacity in working
  - non uniform judgments
- High vacancies in courts.
- Quality of judgements is not uniform. This points to a skill deficit in judiciary.
- Independence under concern. Since, judges tend to be influenced by powerful politicians.

These must be corrected to ensure:
- Timely and adequate justice
- Uphold citizen's faith in judiciary
- Society needs justice at large to function smoothly.

How can these issues be addressed
- Filling vacancies. India has only 18 judges / million people, much lower than USA / Korea.
- Promoting Alternative dispute resolution (ADR)
- Setting up tribunals
  - Speedy justice
  - Natural justice principles followed
  - Eg: NGT for environmental matters
- LINBS project to bring e-gov in judiciary and increase accountability.
- Reforms in Standard Operating Procedures and IPC.

Justice is a basic right of every citizen. Hence it must be protected.

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3. Is anti-defection law a restriction on the freedom of choice of legislators? Examine and also highlight the role played by Speaker in this regard.

(150 words) 10

क्या दल-बदल रोधी क़ानून विधि-निर्माताओं (लेजिस्लेटर्स) की 'चयन की स्वतंत्रता' पर एक प्रतिबंध है? परीक्षण कीजिए और साथ ही इस संदर्भ में,अध्यक्ष द्वारा निभाई जाने वाली भूमिका को रेखांकित कीजिए।

Anti defection law is the popular name for provisions under the 10th Schedule. These were added by the 52nd amendment, 1985 to deal with defection.

Restriction on Freedom of choice

- Individual parliamentarian is bound by whip.
- Going against party wes amounts to defection: thus individual dissent is stifled.
- Even voting in relation to bills, is guided by whip.

Not a restriction on Freedom

- Anti defection law aims to curb the role of power (money).
- Without the law, "dissent" may be misused under the influence of ministerial berth or money.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Party is at the core of democracy and supported by people.
  This means party line is not necessarily against criticism.
- Individual parties may foster internal democracy and scope for dissent.
- Whip is generally issued only for critical matters.

Role of speaker

- Decides on defection, as under Article 102.
- Subject to review, as determined by SC in Kihoto Hollohan Case.
- Acts independently of EC while taking decision.

Issues
- → Political bias
- → Misuse of defection disqualifications
- → Time limit not specified.

To ensure a cleaner and participative democracy, certain provisions must be amended.

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4. What are the various issues pertaining to functioning and performance of state legislatures in India? In this context, suggest some measures to make state assemblies more transparent and effective. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में राज्य विधान-मंडलों की कार्यपद्धति और निष्पादन से संबंधित विभिन्न मुद्दे क्या हैं? इस संदर्भ में, राज्य विधान सभाओं को और अधिक पारदर्शी तथा प्रभावी बनाने हेतु कुछ उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Constitutional scheme provides for a 3tiered federal structure in India. In this regard, at the state level there is usually a unicameral or bicameral legislature.

Various issues

- Fall in productivity
  - Disruptions + Protests
  - Decreased sittings
  - Adjournments
- Bills are often blocked by the second house ~ Vidhan Parishad.
- Bills passed by legislature, may be reserved by Governor.
- Excess of jurisdiction which goes against doctrine of pith and substance. eg: Overriding act over concurrent list

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Efficacy of control through committees and voting has fallen. Due to:
  - Guillotine measures
  - Ordinance route

Possible Measures

- Constitutionally mandate minimum number of sittings per year.
- Empower parliamentary/legislative committees such as:
  - DRSCs
  - Estimates Committee
- Live screening of all ~~proceed~~ proceedings. This would ensure that legislators behave well.
- Increased interaction with public during pre-litigation stage.
- Voter literacy will lead to pressure on MLAs to perform.

Healthy functioning of state legislatures is crucial for good governance.

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5. Social audit not only increases accountability and transparency but also facilitates good governance. Discuss. Also, highlight the impediments faced in institutionalizing social audits in India. **(150 words) 10**

सामाजिक अंकेक्षण (सोशल ऑडिट) से न केवल जवाबदेही और पारदर्शिता बढ़ती है, बल्कि यह सुशासन को भी सुविधाजनक बनाता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में सामाजिक अंकेक्षण को संस्थागत बनाने में आने वाली बाधाओं को भी रेखांकित कीजिए।

Social audit refers to the auditing of government policies / schemes and construction by ordinary citizens.

Increases Accountability

- Highlights cases of misuse of funds.
- For instance, RTI + Audit has led to lesser leakages in road construction.
- Officials are scared to divert funds, for fear of being caught.
- Data is openly available for scrutiny.

Facilitates Good Governance

- Makes democracy participative, which is at the core of good governance.
- Through social audit, citizens can identify what they need

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and how it is being delivered to them.

- Increase in efficiency and equity which lead to good governance.
- Brings in inclusivity
  ↓
  majority of schemes benefit disadvantaged sections
  ↓
  the same sections can now audit the implementation.

Challenges

- Institutional setup is weak
  - Incorrect data provided
  - Data is delayed
  - Harassment of activists
- Lack of political will in implementation.
- Grievance redressal in case of faulty audit is missing.
- Lack of well trained personnel who can carry out audit technicalities.

Social audit facilitates transparency and brings about good governance.

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6. Explain the idea behind introduction of citizen's charters in India. Also, discuss the problems faced in their implementation. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में नागरिक चार्टर के आरंभ के पीछे निहित विचार को स्पष्ट कीजिए। साथ ही, उनके कार्यान्वयन के समक्ष आने वाली समस्याओं की विवेचना कीजिए।

Citizen's charter outlines the expected standards of service a citizen is entitled to. It also provides for the grievance redressal in case of non-implementation.

eg: Sevottam Model

Idea Behind Charters

- By outlining standards, citizens are aware of what they are entitled to.
- Sets standards for the institution with regards to service delivery.
- Grievance redressal allows for in spirit achievement of the objectives.
- These thus make good governance possible.
- Internationally, it is present in countries like Sweden & Denmark.

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Problems in implementation

- Citizen's charter is usually missing in most organizations.
- Often exists only as a formality.
  - Not implemented in spirit
  - copied from somewhere
  - Unrealistic in objective
- As pointed out by 2nd ARC, grievance redressal mechanisms are usually missing.
- Officers in some cases are non-cooperative.

Way Forward

- Citizen's charter if coupled with RTI, would increase its enforceability.
- Legal sanction to it will lead to proper implementation.
- Increasing awareness among public is also needed.

Charters are an essential component to good governance and hence must be implemented.

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7. The Public Distribution System in India has shown laudable improvements, however in the context of migrant workers and those still left out, it needs multiple adjustments. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली ने प्रशंसनीय सुधार दर्ज किए हैं, हालाँकि प्रवासी श्रमिकों और इस प्रणाली से न जुड़ पाए लोगों के संदर्भ में, इसमें विविध समायोजनों की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Recent COVID migrant crisis has shown, how vulnerable migrants are in the absence of PDS portability.

Laudable improvements

- improvement in efficiency and transparency due to:
  - Geotagging of trucks
  - SMS based services
  - RTI and other grievance redressal
- Increased identification of beneficiaries using Aadhar.
- FCI's schemes relating to increased procurement and dispersal.
- Collaboration with NAFED has increased stock.
- Schemes such as 'Mid day meal and ICDS have increased the reach.

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Multiple adjustments needed

- Beneficiary portability is still missing. Thus many migrants are unable to access.
- Inclusion and exclusion errors in beneficiary identification.
- Leakages and pilferages, due to corruption.
- Quality of grain is often of a lower quality. Grains have also found to be rotten.
- Many times PDS shops tend to be closed on working days.

Way Forward

- Suggestions of Shanta Kumar committee over universality (~50%)
- Transparent liquidation policy.
- One Nation, One Ration Card.
- Blockchain based distribution.

Food security can be achieved if PDS reforms are implemented properly.

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8. While India has shown improvement in a number of socio-economic indicators over the years, considerable work still needs to be done to improve India's performance in the Global Hunger Index. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

यद्यपि, भारत ने विगत कुछ वर्षों में कई सामाजिक-आर्थिक संकेतकों में सुधार दर्ज किया है, तथापि वैश्विक भूख सूचकांक (ग्लोबल हंगर इंडेक्स) में भारत के प्रदर्शन को बेहतर करने हेतु अभी भी बहुत कुछ किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently welthungerlife released Global Hunger Index, in which India's rank fell to 102.

This puts India in the "severe" category, along with many African nations.

Improvement in Various Indicators

- Education
  - Increase in Literacy (~78% now)
  - Increase in GER (~100% at primary level)
  - Access to education has improved

- Health
  - Universal coverage through NHPS
  - Free treatment in hospitals like AIIMS
  - Distribution of medicines at free cost

- Poverty eradication through schemes like MGNREGA / Ajeevika / NRLM.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

However, hunger still remains a concern due to

- Low accessibility of food:
  - PDS shops closed
  - Caste barriers
  - Gender divide
- Low affordability of food due to poverty.
- Issue of "Hidden Hunger" due to micronutrients deficiency.
- Availability is also a concern:
  - Food dependent on monsoon, thus vulnerable to climate.
  - Transportation system is not fully efficient.

Way Forward

- Reforms in PDS → Blockchain, Liquidation, Universality
- Improving reach of ICDS and MDMS.
- Transparency in food disbursal under Ration shops.

Right to food is a basic human right and cannot be denied.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. Discuss the border issue between India and Nepal in view of the observation that it is both a testimony to the special relationship and a source of recurring frictions. **(150 words) 10**

भारत-नेपाल संबंध वस्तुतः विशेष संबंध का एक प्रमाण होने के साथ-साथ बारंबार होने वाले टकराव का भी एक स्रोत है, इस अवलोकन के आलोक में दोनों के मध्य सीमा-विवाद की समस्या पर चर्चा कीजिए।

India and Nepal have historically enjoyed a close relationship as evident from Indo-Nepal Friendship treaty of 1950.

It is said to be a "roti-beti" ka rishta.

Border Issue

- India and Nepal have an open border, which allows movement of goods and people.
- India has such a provision only with Bhutan thus indicating a special relationship.
- Due to open border

Nepalese find employment in India

India has a Gorkha regiment

People to people contact is more

- Further it also leads to increased trade.

Source of friction

- Continuous border conflicts over demarcation
  - Treaty of Sagauli
  - Kalapani issue
  - Susta (Bihar) claimed by Nepal
- Increased concerns over smuggling of weapons and people.
- China factor, which raises concerns over internal security.
- Madhesis led blockade was not liked by China.
- Issue of water sharing of Sharda/Gandhak.

Way Forward

- Increased engagement at high level through meets.
- Bilateral and tri lateral engagement.
- Humanitarian aid can be reviewed.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. The evolving global situation around Covid-19 simultaneously highlights the relevance of the World Health Organisation (WHO) as well as its existing lacunae. Discuss.
(150 words) 10

कोविड-19 के चतुर्दिक विकसित वैश्विक स्थिति, विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) की प्रासंगिकता के साथ-साथ इसमें विद्यमान कमियों को भी रेखांकित करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

WHO has been at the forefront of the fight against COVID. WHO has a close working relationship with UN and is the defacto leader in matters of health.

Relevance of WHO

- Provides funding to poorer countries to fight outbreaks.
- Facilitates a coordinated response.
  - Ebola 2019
  - Covid 19
  - Zika Outbreak
- Facilitates monitoring and surveillance to find out disease spikes.
- Data collection, which can be used to make vaccines.
- PHIEC mechanism allows for a global fight.
- Reassurance in times of crisis, due to engagement with multiple countries.

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Lacunae

- Opacity in functioning.
  eg: Criticized for protecting China during COVID.
- Opaque appointment process of director, WHO.
- Issue of funding
  - Dependent on voluntary contributions
  - US withdrew
  - Contribution by China → increased voting power
- Coordination mechanism is seen as "too little, too late".
- Developed countries have a higher say, due to contributions. This leads to lobbying by MNCs.

Way Forward

By bringing in transparency in appointment and functioning, WHO can better coordinate "World Health".

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. Identifying the different capacity gaps that exist in Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), highlight the need for capacity building of these bodies. What steps have been taken by the government of India in this regard? **(250 words) 15**

शहरी स्थानीय निकायों (ULBs) में मौजूद विभिन्न क्षमता अंतरालों की पहचान करते हुए, इन निकायों के क्षमता निर्माण की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालिए। इस संबंध में भारत सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

Urban local bodies were an outcome of 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment, 1992.

They are an exercise in democratic decentralization and making development "participatory".

Capacity Gaps

- Issue of funding
  1. Tied nature of funds eg: Roads funds linked to Gram Sadak Yojana.
  2. Leakages and pilferages due to corruption.
  3. Low budgetary support.
  4. Devolution of financial powers is less.
  5. Reluctance to tax people in locality.
- Skill gaps in functionaries
  - Inefficient work culture.
  - Politicization

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Proxy candidates such as Bini, Babu, Beti.
- Apathy for local populace.
- Functions are not well defined. This leads to conflict with other para statal bodies.
- Elections not held regularly.
- Finance Commission's issues:
  1. Not setup in many states
  2. Recommendations rejected
- Evidence based funds distribution is missing.

Need for capacity Building

- International examples show that ULBs can lead to rapid development.
  - China ~50% spending by ULBs
  - Increased engagement in European countries
  - Sweden's ULBs implement education smoothly
- Increased transparency and accountability.

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- Citizen engagement will usher in participatory democracy.
- "Bottom up planning" will lead to better schemes, more suited to local people.
- Will make citizens more engaged in politics.
- Essential services such as water, electricity can be provided efficiently.

Steps taken by Government

1. Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Ministry of Urban Affairs to look into matters.
2. District Planning committees to form overall plan.
3. Involvement of local NGOs to increase awareness about the importance of ULBs.
   eg: MKSS or IAC.
4. Regular ward elections have now been mandated.

Grassroot development is crucial for overall development of India.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. Assess the performance of the GST Council as a constitutional body vested with powers to take all major decisions relating to Goods and Services Tax. (250 words) 15

वस्तु और सेवा कर (GST) से संबंधित सभी बड़े निर्णय लेने की शक्तियों से लैस एक संवैधानिक निकाय के रूप में GST परिषद के प्रदर्शन का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

GST council was established by the 101st constitutional amendment.

It is formed under Article 279-A.

Composition of Council

- Centre: 1/3 weight in voting
- States: 2/3 weight
- Decisions need 3/4 majority.
- Quorum: 1/2 of members

Analysis of Performance

Successes

- Promoted cooperative federalism, since states readily gave away power over many taxes.
- In the towards, one nation, one tax
- Anti profiteering mechanism has benefitted customers.
- Distribution of CGST and IGST based on a well

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conceived formula.

- higher taxes for sin goods.
- Implementation of CGSTN for e-filing of GST bills.
- Involvement of experts in crucial financial matters.

Issues / Concerns

- Multiple tax slabs dilute the idea of One Nation, One tax.
- Arbitrary criteria for grouping goods into different slabs.
- GST Compensation Cess has been delayed and falls inadequate.
- Higher voting share to states, leads to blocking of some crucial decisions.
- Certain items still kept out of ambit: ATF / Petrol / Diesel
- Input Credits mechanism suffers from false receipts. This has not been looked into by

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the council.

- Fall in overall tax collection, negatively impacts states. However GST council still did not change allocation.

Way Forward

- Close coordination with RBI and Ministry of Finance to ensure sound policies.
- GSTN technicalities must be looked into.
- Post of vice chairman should be elected from "opposition states" to foster debate.
- Recommendations of 15th FC over tax collection and sharing must be taken into account.

Fiscal decentralization and cooperation is crucial for a $5 trillion economy. This calls for efficient working of the GST Council.

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13. Discuss each adjective attached to the word 'Justice' in the 'Preamble'. Highlight some constitutional and legal steps taken towards each of them in India. **(250 words) 15**

उद्देशिका' में प्रयुक्त 'न्याय' शब्द से जुड़े प्रत्येक विशेषण की विवेचना कीजिए। भारत में उनमें से प्रत्येक की दिशा में उठाए गए कुछ संवैधानिक और विधिक कदमों को रेखांकित कीजिए।

Our constitution begins with the preamble. It highlights the basic philosophy on which the constitution is based.

Words attached to Justice are:
- Social
- Economic
- Political

Social Justice

- Refers to justice towards all citizens that brings in inclusivity.
- All sections must be treated equally and marginalized must progress.
- Basic amenities such as health, education must be available to all.

Initiatives

- Protection of Civil Rights Act.
- Child Labour Prohibition, 1986.

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- Safe guards under Right to Equality Article 14-17.
- Special provisions for SCs / STs.
- SC/ST Atrocities Act, 1989.
- Reservation of seats under Article 330.

Economic Justice

- Freedom and economic empowerment of all sections.
- Poverty eradication and financial inclusion of all sections.
- Economic freedom in corporate and public sphere.

Initiatives / Steps

- Provisions relating to taxation. eg: Article 265 ~ no tax without law.
- Finance Commission to ensure distribution of taxes between states.
- Poverty eradication. eg: MGNREGA

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Taxation powers and GST Council in line with federalism.
- RBI's financial inclusion strategy.

Political Justice

- Equality in political matters
  - Right to contest
  - Adult Suffrage
  - Political empowerment of weaker sections

- Multiparty system along with free and fair elections.
- Each citizen is politically empowered.

Legal steps

- Election Commission under Article 324.
- Adult suffrage under Article 326.
- Reservation in PRIs / ULBs.
- PESA Act for bringing in disadvantaged sections.

Thus the constitution seeks to achieve "holistic justice"

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Federal tensions in India highlight the need for reforming the Seventh Schedule through the addition, removal and appropriate placement of entries. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में संघीय तनाव, प्रविष्टियों को जोड़ने, हटाने और उचित व्यवस्थापन के माध्यम से सातवीं अनुसूची में सुधार की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Indian constitutional scheme provides for a 3-tiered federal model.
It is based on division of powers in the legislative, executive and judicial sphere.

Legislative powers are divided as per 7th schedule into:
- Union List
- Concurrent List
- State List

Federal Tensions
- States argue interference in domain by centre.
  eg: APMC Ordinance seen as "disguised" interference.
- Against doctrine of pith and substance that divides powers between the 2 organs.
- Concurrent list is subject to overriding power.

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the law of centre prevails.

- Distribution of legislative matters has also been criticised:
  - Important matters such as environment and disaster management not mentioned.
  - Taxation in concurrent list.
  - Land and family planning need crucial role of centre. However land is in state list.
- Governor's discretion with regards to reservation of bills is also a source of tension.

Need for reform

- As recommended by Sarkaria Commission:
  - Minimum entries in concurrent list
  - Deliberation before making a law on concurrent list
  - Taxation should be devolved to states

- Crucial matters such as education, health, Land must be in concurrent list.
- Frequent conflicts over water sharing ⇒ water to be brought under Concurrent list. (also said by Mihir Shah Committee)
- Contract farming and marketing can be delegated to states.
- Certain matters such as admiralty and divorce can be placed in state list.
- Since actual work of implementation is done by states, centre should only control entries that are sensitive to national security.

Federalism is part of basic structure as determined by SC. This calls for appropriate reforms.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. The 'globalisation' discourse has reinforced the role of civil society in the management of many socio-economic areas that hitherto belonged to the State. Comment.

(250 words) 15

'वैश्वीकरण' से संबद्ध संवाद ने ऐसे कई सामाजिक-आर्थिक क्षेत्रों के प्रबंधन में नागरिक समाज की भूमिका को परिपुष्ट किया है जो अब तक राज्य से संबंधित थे। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Post 1991 reforms, India has seen a marked phase of globalization. It has been characterized by increasing interconnectedness and changing role of state.

Reinforced role of Civil Society

- Shift in governance from provider to "enabler".
- This has created a policy space for civil society.
- Reinforced roles such as:
  - Policy formulation
  - Policy implementation
  - Promoting transparency
- Raising prominent issues among the public.
- Globalization has also led to emergence of many I-NGOs.

anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Examples

- NGOs such as Urmy working for poverty eradication.
- Sulabh International working for sanitation.
- CRY working for ending child labour.
- Jagori & Kudumbashree working for women empowerment.
- Greenpeace & Narmada Bachao in environmental matters.
- PUCL / ADR in political reforms.

Management of socio-econ areas

- Many of these areas hitherto belonged to government.

↓ low access in health sector

↓ environmental NGOs are a recent phenomenon

↓ Newer NGOs such as PRATHAM

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- Provision of basic services has seen as an exclusive role of government.
- ~~Hone~~ However now NGOs such as Akshaya Patra are also providing MDMS.
- Political reforms had earlier been a demand of spontaneous movements such as Jay Prakash Jan Aandolan.

Some Issues still Remain

- Lack of an enabling policy environment for civil society.
- Issues of funding and misuse of funds due to laundering.
- Excessive politicization.
- Some organisations promoting foreign propaganda. eg: Kudankulam protests.
- Informal nature of sector.

Recognizing the role of civil society as the 3rd pillar, the need is of increased engagement.

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16. Highlighting the need for reforms in civil services with special focus on the Indian Administrative Services (IAS), critically discuss the apprehensions associated with lateral entry in civil services. (250 words) 15

भारतीय प्रशासनिक सेवा (IAS) पर विशेष रूप से ध्यान केंद्रित कर तथा सिविल सेवाओं में सुधार की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करते हुए, सिविल सेवाओं में पार्श्व प्रविष्टि (लेटरल एंट्री) से जुड़ी आशंकाओं की आलोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

Last 2 decades have seen a shift in the role of government, from a "provider" to a facilitator/enabler. Along with this the role of civil services has also changed.

Need for reforms

- Issues of accountability and transparency. Many cases of corruption.
- License Raj continues in other form.
- Bureaucracy seen to be apathetic to needs of people
- High handed approach and prevalent red tape.
- Excessive politicization and loss of independence.

These issues are also true for IAS. It also suffers from:

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- Centre state conflict over ultimate control and transfer.
- Method of appointment is seen as outdated.
- Concentration of power, due to secretarial positions going to IAS.

Apprehensions with Lateral Entry

- Specialists have a narrow vision compared to generalists.
- May be absorbed into the very bureaucratic culture they sought to change.
- Not upto date with functioning of government. This leads to:
  - Issues of procedural correctness.
  - Non flexibility of such bureaucrats, a concern.
- Cannot be transferred across departments due to their specialized role.

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At the same time it has many positive:

- Administration will be by experts and not generalists.
- Policies will be sound, and have the required depth.
- Involvement of private sector, will bring private sector's:
  - professionalism
  - competence
- May lead to increased transparency by bringing in dedicated people.
- Not everyone can clear exam to join. Such people would get chance to serve nation.

Way Forward

- Some departments should take in bureaucrats on a "need basis".
- Reforms such as → Mission Karmayogi → 360° Review
- Better enforcement through CBI and CVC.

Civil service reforms will lead to better governance.

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17. Online education is gaining traction in India due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. Identify the different challenges that need to be addressed before it can emerge as a feasible alternative to classroom learning in India. Suggest some measures to address the above-identified challenges.

(250 words) 15

वर्तमान में जारी कोविड-19 संकट के कारण भारत में ऑनलाइन शिक्षा बढ़ रही है। उन विभिन्न चुनौतियों की पहचान कीजिए जिन्हें भारत में कक्षा अधिगम (क्लासरूम लर्निंग) के एक व्यवहार्य विकल्प के रूप में इसके उभरने से पूर्व दूर किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। उपर्युक्त चुनौतियों का समाधान करने हेतु कुछ उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

COVID crisis led to shutting down of schools, colleges and coachings. This led to a sudden increase in online teaching.

Challenges Associated

- Issue of digital divide
  - low internet penetration in rural India
  - low digital literacy
  - slow internet in hilly areas
- Linguistic issue: Mostly content is still in major languages.
- Issue of cyberthreats such as:
  - Cyberbullying of children
  - Cyberstalking of girls
  - Adult content

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- Lack of socialisation, due to anonymity. This is not good for mental health of children.
- Eye strain due to excess use of computer and Laptop.
- Not "personal" in nature. The human element is missing.
- Infrastructural setup is expensive.
- Teacher Capacity
  - Themselves offline
  - Many can't use multimedia
  - comfort factor

Benefits of e-learning
- Scalable
- Accessible
- Less expensive once setup
- Inclusive

Measures to address issues
- Increase spending on education, from 4.6% of GDP to 6%.

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- International collaboration such as World Bank's STARS Project.
- Increase digital reach, through Digital India Mission.
- Deal with cyber issues through:
  1. CERT-In involvement
  2. Raising awareness
- Rope in private sector to provide platform. eg: Khan Academy.
- NGOs can offer teaching at low cost from decentralized places.
  eg: Teach for India.
- Create a policy for digital education. This is still missing.

Way Forward

Education comes under concurrent list and hence calls for cooperative federalism. Further the case is for blended learning (BL)

BL = e Learning + offline Learning.

18. In recent times, Randomised Control Trials (RCTs) have acquired salience in policy debates. In the context of poverty alleviation programmes in India, discuss the role RCTs can play in policy formulation. **(250 words) 15**

हाल के समय में, रैंडमाइज्ड कंट्रोल ट्रायल (RCTs) नीतिगत बहस का महत्वपूर्ण भाग बन गया है। भारत में निर्धनता उन्मूलन कार्यक्रमों के संदर्भ में, नीति-निर्माण में RCTs द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका की विवेचना कीजिए।

RCTs came into prominence post the Nobel Prize being awarded to Abhijit Banerjee & Esther Duflo.

What are RCTs?

- Conducting trials on randomized sample spaces.
- The external factors are controlled.
- Each factor is changed one at a time and the effect is noted.
- This leads to observation of overall impacts and their correlation with various factors.

Role RCTs Can Play

- Provide evidence based policy making.
- Policies will be more in line with demands of people.

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- Will lead to a bottom up approach to governance.
- Shift focus from output to outcome.
- Increase transparency in funds distribution by identifying leakages.
- Better grievance redressal mechanisms can be setup.

Examples

- It was found that vaccine schemes were failing due to "vaccine hesitancy". Thus appropriate policy changes could be made.
- Toilets constructed under Swachh Bharat were not being used in many cases.
  - Issue of Output vs Outcome.
  - Need of "Nudge" in policy implementation.
- Role of poverty alleviation schemes could be studied effectively.

anything this margin (कुछ भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- issues of inaccessibility of schemes was studied in case of PDS.

Why RCTs are not mainstreamed?

- low awareness about the role and usage of RCTs.
- Data governance is poor.
- Fudging of data is also seen in some cases.
- No policy with regards to usage of RCTs.
- Functionaries are not skilled in matters of data collection and interpretation.

Way Forward

Successful examples of African AIDS tackling has shown the importance of RCTs. The need is to incorporate RCTs into policy making.

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19. Internationally the rise of protectionism and changing approach of many countries towards migration may have a significant impact on the Indian Diaspora. Explain.

(250 words) 15

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर उभरते हुए संरक्षणवाद और प्रवासन के प्रति कई देशों के परिवर्तित होते दृष्टिकोण का भारतीय डायस्पोरा पर महत्वपूर्ण प्रभाव पड़ सकता है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

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